



CHINA

Paragraph Pictures

AN up-to-date miniature hand book of interesting information on the country and significant outstanding facts of foreign mission progress. Intended for pastors, church workers, and all who have use for a compact reference work from which may be quickly obtained significant facts for incorporation into missionary addresses.

METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH
WORLD SERVICE COMMISSION
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Keep this Booklet

China

The Land and the People

When Abraham was founding a nation, China was in her "Golden Age." When Rome was founded, China had a state school system. When Solon was giving law to Greece, the ethical laws of China's religion were compiled. When Paul was making his journeys, Buddhism was entering China. When Charlemagne was subduing Anglo-Saxon Barbarians, China's literature was at its height. When Columbus was discovering America, China was collecting her centuries-old historical books.



China with her 4,000,000 square miles is thirty-two times the size of the British Isles. Four hundred million people—almost four times the population of the United States—live within her borders. Only a mighty movement could affect such a people with an inheritance of forty centuries of ordered civilization.



Under normal circumstances China's population will be almost one billion—one thousand times one million!—by the end of the twentieth century.



China's location is favorable for the development of a great civilization. It lies chiefly in the North Temperate Zone—the zone of power, and its main trade routes run east and west, in line with the world's trade routes.



In places like Shanghai, which in 60 years has grown from a sleepy fishing village into one of the greatest ports in the world, there

are probably the most congested housing conditions to be found anywhere in the world.



Hongkong is the greatest port of the world. In 1917 the tonnage of ships entering and clearing from Hongkong practically equalled that of New York, Boston and Philadelphia combined.



The majority of the Chinese are adherents of all three of the religions—Confucianism, Taoism and Buddhism. There are also large numbers of Mohammedans. But the hold of these religions on the people is speedily lessening.



China's religions have proved unequal to the task of producing the highest type of individual character, or of initiating forces and movements capable of regenerating society. Yet these are China's two outstanding needs today!

New Days in an Old Land

A picture-writer once coined a phrase, "The Unchanging East," and time has turned round and taken revenge upon him. The East is today the place of change—of changes so great and swift that in comparison with it our Europe is standing still.



Revolutionary troops—almost a mob so far as training and equipment were concerned—put an end to the Manchu dynasty in 1911. While the outside world had thought of China as still slumbering, she had been dreaming of freedom; and in four months, in a spectacular and swift revolution, she had secured freedom. Occidental minds could hardly believe it.



Twenty years ago the Boxer uprising was an effort to expel all foreign influences from

the land; to-day her representative sits in the inner council of the League of Nations. The past decade has seen the abolition of the old literacy examinations, the passing of the queue and the bound foot, the overthrow of the Manchus, revolution against Yuan Shih-Kai, two attempts at restoring a monarchy, civil war, the establishment of factories, the building of railroads, the outlawing of opium. Back of these great and rapid changes have been the direct and indirect influences of a century of Christian effort.



A wonderful new movement for simplified phonetic writing of the difficult language has been adopted by the government in China, through which thirty-nine characters are made to do the work of between 50,000 and 60,000. In 7,000 preaching places about 700,000 Christians are being urged to learn this new method and teach it to their families and neighbors.



The "National Medical Association of China" has been organized by Chinese leaders to spread modern medical knowledge, to arouse interest in public health and in preventative medicines.



China has 7,000 miles of modern railroads and many hundred miles of trolley lines. The trains penetrate the "Great Wall" at more than one point.



The sailing junk and the big steamer ply the larger rivers side by side. It takes the junk on the Yangtse River from four to six weeks to make the trip from Ichang to Chungking. For several years steamers have been making the trip in just four days.



The Hangyang Iron works, organized and managed by Chinese business men, employs

5,000 workmen. Hangyang chimneys remind one of Chicago or Pittsburgh.



Thirty-five per cent of the employees in 121 silk mills are under 14 years of age.

Turning to Christ

"There is a growing sense among our leaders all over the country of their powerlessness to make the country better and stronger. China needs Christ, and the best contribution we can give to the rebirth of the nation is to bring Christ to the people."—Dr. C. T. Wang.



"It was Napoleon who said that when China awoke she would shake the world. Everything depends on the ideals which are held before China's waking eyes. If China becomes Christian then the Orient is safe."—Dr. C. E. Jefferson.



The first Methodist missionaries arrived at Foochow in 1847. Twenty-two years later Methodism was in Peking, then later in Nanking, in Chengtu, in Nanchang. Within the past thirty years it has spread rapidly and sent out many new missionaries. The number of native workers—preachers, teachers, exhorters, nurses, etc.—approximates 5,000.



The Methodist Episcopal Church has seven Conferences in China. It has to-day a total of more than 300 missionaries sent out by the Board of Foreign Missions, and 180 by the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society.



During 1920-21 new missionaries to the number of 68 were added to our forces in China; new buildings included 2 hospitals and dispensaries, 3 college buildings, 2 institutional churches, 20 primary schools, and 40 city and village churches. Some of the outstanding

Centenary contributions to China include: advance work in Nanking University, including development of the School of Agriculture and Forestry; dispensary and chapel at Tunki; doubling the usefulness of Wuhu Hospital; institutional church in midst of 1,500,000 people at Nanchang; the taking of many children, orphaned by the famine, into our schools in North China.



Something of the enormity of the task may be gleaned from a survey of the North China Conference—and it is only one of our seven Methodist Conferences in this vast country. The North China Conference covers an area of 214,000 square miles; Methodism is responsible for some 7,677,000 people—other denominations a total of 50,000,000. In Methodist territory there are 182 churches and rented halls—as against 1,287 wine shops, 2,378 food shops (selling wine), 1,680 cigarette stores and hundreds of peddlers, 1,614 houses of ill-fame some of them with scores of inmates. In the Conference Methodism has 15,215 full members and 7,459 probationers. That total enrollment has doubled since 1916.



The Methodist Episcopal Church has in China 1,019 Sunday schools with 59,834 pupils.



On North Mintsing District six congregations have raised funds for new churches and schools—to be added to money from America.



In seven towns on Tientsin District the people have given our missionaries their temple properties for schools and churches.



China has eighteen mission colleges and universities sustained by British and American societies. Three are for women.

At Peking, Chengtu, Nanking and Foochow are located the four union universities in the control of which Methodism has an important part. Each university is fed by a large number of secondary schools, some hundreds of miles away, which annually contribute their most likely graduates.



Peking University has given the North China Conference 50 per cent of its active pastors, and many of its lay leaders.



The School of Agriculture and Forestry in Nanking University makes a notable contribution to famine relief and prevention. Its trees and millions of seedlings and tons of seeds are repopulating the barren hills of Nanking and neighboring counties. It is developing a superior native cotton, new and more varieties of corn, wheat and other grains; diseases in silkworms are being eliminated, and silkworm incubators are being introduced. A member of the faculty has invented and marketed an adaptation of the Chinese singlehanded plow, but one that plows faster and deeper.



Peking Academy has a Student Volunteer Band of 65 students; 60 taught and preached during the summer; 35 are pledged to prepare for the Christian ministry.



Students of the Anglo-Chinese College, Foochow, taught phonetic script and health care in their home villages; 20 gave six weeks of their vacation as volunteers in the Daily Vacation Bible School.



Alumni of the Anglo-Chinese College, Foochow, have given \$30,000 for the erection of "Alumni Hall."



Students of the Tientsin Boys' School have started a "poor boys' school" after the famine;

then they organized a free summer school, teaching 220 children.



General Feng Yu-Hsiang, "the Chinese Cromwell," is a Christian. Many of his soldiers have embraced Christianity. Recently 4,500 men of his command participated in a communion service.



The Scriptures have been translated into 26 languages and dialects in China and her dependencies.



There are a thousand trained doctors in China, one to 427,000 people. In the United States we have one doctor to 712 people.



Methodism's twenty-eight hospitals and dispensaries in China give 300,000 treatments yearly.



Reckoned on the same basis as China, the state of Oregon would have a total of nine schools and churches; Maine and New Hampshire combined, a total of eighteen schools and churches.



The unoccupied areas of China—not claimed by any mission board—aggregate 480,000 square miles with a population of over 36,000,000.



Chinese walled cities and towns to the number of 1,557 are without any Christian worker.



"In the years just ahead, we must move forward strongly and wisely, not in the mere strengthening of 'Missions' but in growing a self sustaining and reproducing Chinese Church, ecclesiastically a part of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and genuinely a living part of an organism."—Dr. Ralph A. Ward.